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Akron Man Pleads Guilty to Driving Van into Two Men, Killing One

AKRON, Ohio (Wednesday, February 19, 2020) – Summit County Prosecutor Sherri Bevan Walsh announced today that Daniel Shmigal, 28, of McIntosh Avenue in Akron, pled guilty to driving a van into two people, killing one and seriously injuring the other.

Shmigal pled guilty to the following charges:

- Murder – a Special Felony
- Aggravated Vehicular Assault – a felony of the 2nd degree

On March 17, 2019, Daniel Shmigal was driving a 2002 minivan when he purposefully struck Derek Smith and Charles Holden, who were walking on the sidewalk near the intersection of Virginia Avenue and Barbara Avenue in Akron's Firestone Park neighborhood. Holden, 34, of Wooster, died about a month later. Smith, 29, of Akron, suffered serious injuries.

Prior to the incident, Shmigal had been arguing with his wife about Derek Smith, who is a friend of Shmigal's wife.

Summit County Common Pleas Court Judge Mary Margaret Rowlands is scheduled to sentence Shmigal on Tuesday, February 25, 2020 at 11am.